

9/13

## Changes made to the original claims:

1. An aquatic weed suppression means consisting of a strip of (opaque) plastic of width five or more feet with transverse hold down means, either integral or attached, located longitudinally about every three feet.
2. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plastic has a specific gravity of one or less.
3. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plastic is polyethylene (about .001" thick similar to the plastic vegetable growers use to mulch their crops).
4. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the plastic is a tough material capable of withstanding the abrasive action of active water and sharp rocks.
5. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the hold down means is a transversely attached tube filled with any of a variety of heavier than water materials.
6. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein the hold down means is (a heavy adherent substance such as a) sand filled hot melt glue.
7. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 wherein there are gas release ports in the plastic sheets located laterally from 1 to 4 feet apart and longitudinally midway between the transverse hold down means.
8. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim (1) 7 wherein the gas release ports are slits or small holes.
9. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim (1) 8 wherein the slits are about three inches long and positioned longitudinally or at an angle to longitudinal.
10. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 1 for use in irrigation and drainage ditches utilizing a strip of plastic of width adequate to span the ditch and of length appropriate for ease of installation with multiple transverse plastic tubes spaced about every three feet and filled with sand, cement, aggregate or other material adequate to hold the plastic strip in close proximity to the contour of the ditch.
11. An aquatic weed suppression means in accordance with claim 10 wherein the specific gravity of the plastic sheets is greater than 1.

16/13

Reasons for changes in Claims;

Claim 1. Omission of "opaque". The light blocking requirement is obvious to anyone skilled in the art and its degree is not critical to this invention.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, and 11 are unchanged.

Claim 3. The part of the claim after "about" is omitted as rendering the claim indefinite. Its elimination results in a definite statement.

Claim 6. The "such as" phrase causes the claim to be indefinite. Its elimination causes the claim to be definite.

Claim 8. The change of the reference to claim 7 from claim 1 clarifies the antecedent basis.

Claim 9. The antecedent is changed from 1 to 8 which seems more logical.